### U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Kremmling Field Office P O Box 68 Kremmling, CO 80459

# **DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2014-005-DNA

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: (optional)

PROJECT NAME: Livestock Grazing Preference Transfer to Park Range Ranch, LLC.

<u>LEGAL DESCRIPTION</u>: Grazing Allotments 07118 (Delta), 07116 (Platte), 07117 (Lozier)

All or part of T. 9 N., R. 80 W., Sec. 14, 15, 22, 23, 27 and 28, 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. (See Map)

APPLICANT: Park Range Ranch, LLC.

**ISSUES AND CONCERNS**: (optional)

#### **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION:**

Transfer Grazing Preference: The Proposed Action is to transfer grazing preference from the current grazing permittee to a new grazing permittee. The Existing base property was sold to a new owner who is applying for the grazing permit.

Issue Grazing Permit: A new grazing permit would be issued to the applicant. The number/kind of livestock, period of use, percent public land and Animal Unit Months (AUMS) would remain the same as the previous permit. The permit would be issued for a 10-year period. The proposed action is in accordance with 43 CFR 4130.2. Scheduled grazing use and grazing preference for the permit are summarized below.

Allotment	Livestock	Kind	Number Kind	Season of Use	Percent Public Land	AUMs
07116	Platte	Cattle	52	5/21	100	104
		Cattle	56	5/21	100	112
		Cattle	33	5/21	100	66
07117	Lozier	Cattle	20	5/21	42	4
07118	Delta	Cattle	50	5/21	77	39

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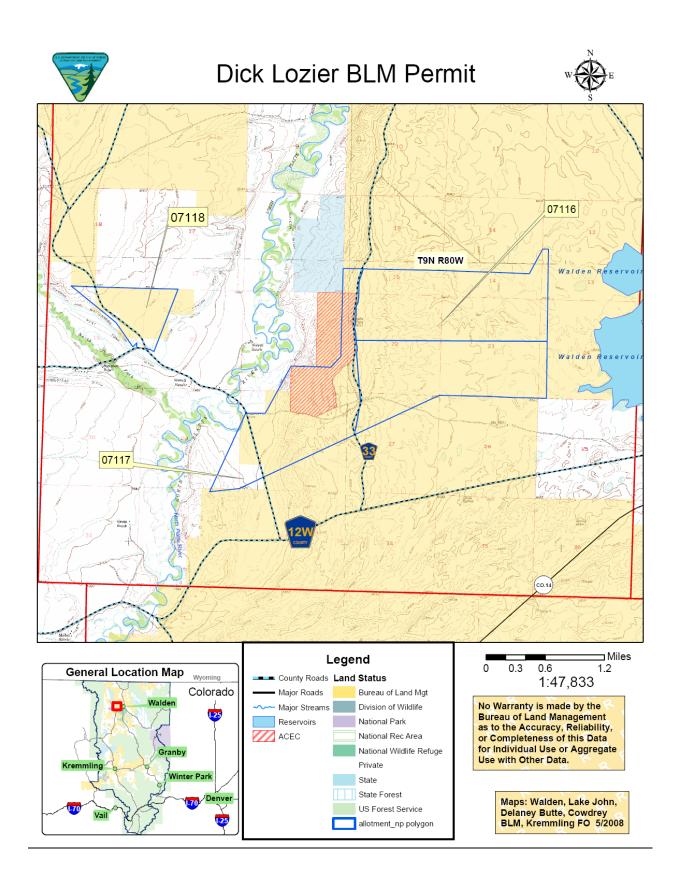
The following other terms and conditions would be carried forward on the renewed permit:

## Allotment 07116 (Platte)

# The Grazing Plan incorporates the Following Conditions

- 1. Implementation of a rest rotation grazing system.
- 2. Utilizations for each pasture will not exceed 50% on uplands and riparian areas. When utilization levels are met then the permittee will either move to next scheduled pasture or to another area within the pasture.
- 3. The permittee is given 5 days of flexibility on either side of turnout dates to turn cattle out onto the allotment. Permittee must contact the BLM to make his intentions known.
- 4. Yearlings would be authorized at 1.5 yearlings per Cow/Calf pair.
- 5. This rest rotation grazing system will replace the 1978 grazing system and Allotment Management Plan (AMP). The information found in the AMP may still be applicable for management decisions.

This grazing system should be evaluated after each grazing season and adjustments to the grazing plan instituted as determined by the permittee and the Kremmling Field Office.



<u>Decision to be Made:</u> The decision to transfer the above listed allotments grazing preference and to issue a new grazing permit for the grazing preference to Park Range Ranch, LLC.

#### PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW:

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

<u>Date Approved</u>: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

<u>Decision Number/Page</u>: Livestock grazing pages 6 through 8, as revised.

<u>Decision Language</u>: Objectives of the RMP/ROD include allocation of a base level livestock forage and maintaining or improving forage production and condition in areas where livestock grazing is a priority or is compatible with the land use priority. The RMP/Rod designated the project area with a no priority. Livestock grazing is compatible with this designation.

#### **REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:**

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: CO-120-2008-12-EA Date Approved: 5/5/08

#### NEPA ADEQUACY CRITERIA:

1. Is the new Proposed Action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial? **YES** 

The new livestock grazing permit will contain the same terms and conditions, stocking rate and grazing schedule as the permits issued in 2009 and 2010.

**2.** Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values? **YES** 

Yes, the allotments were meeting standards for land health, a grazing system has been implemented and there will be a continuation of current management.

**3.** Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of

BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new Proposed Action? **There is no new information. YES** 

**4.** Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Proposed Action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? **YES** 

The new permit is a continuation of the current management.

**5.** Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents adequate for the current Proposed Action? **YES** 

Yes, no issues or concerns were identified in previous scoping.

#### INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the Kremmling Field Office interdisciplinary team on 12/20/2013. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the Kremmling Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Bill B. Wyatt	Staff Archaeologist	Archaeology/Tribal Consultation, Paleontology	1/15/2014
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	1/22/2014
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Plant and Wildlife Species	12/12/13

#### **REMARKS**:

Cultural Resources: This action is not a Section 106 action as defined under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended and its implementing regulations and guidelines. Any future Section 106 action would require cultural resource clearance and consultation with the SHPO.

Native American Religious Concerns: This action does not affect traditional cultural or spiritual properties. Any future Section 106 action would require tribal consultation.

MITIGATION: none

#### **COMPLIANCE PLAN:**

Compliance with the transferred livestock grazing permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment, monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the permit and/or leases, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

NAME OF PREPARER: Neilie Goodwin

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Susan Cassel

#### CONCLUSION

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:	_/s/ Susan Cassel
	Acting Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 1/24/2014

Note: The signed Conclusion in this DNA Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest or appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.